

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 EA-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20 DOE-15 SOE-02 EB-08
OMB-01 TRSE-00 OES-07 AID-05 LAB-04 SIL-01 /167 W
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R 131150Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5574
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 TRIPOLI 0831

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, PINR, LY
SUBJECT: TRIPOLI WATCH: COMINGS AND GOINGS - JUNE 1-10, 1978

I. ARRIVALS --

1. ALGERIA. COLONEL QADHAFI RETURNED FROM ALGERIA JUNE 6
FOLLOWING A WEEK-LONG VISIT.

2. BENIN. INTERIOR MINISTER CAPTAIN MARTIN DOHOU AZONHIHO
ARRIVED IN TRIPOLI JUNE 10 ON AN OFFICIAL VISIT. ASIDE FROM
ATTENDING THE "AMERICAN EVACUATION DAY" CELEBRATIONS WHERE HE
WAS ACCORDED A SEAT OF HONOR SECOND ONLY TO THAT GIVEN TO
YASIR ARAFAT, AZONHIHO HELD DISCUSSIONS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER
TURAYKI AND INTERIOR SECRETARY YUNIS BILQASIM IN ADDITION TO
OTHER OFFICIALS. AZONHIHO IS BELIEVED TO BE SEEKING
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LIBYAN ASSISTANCE IN THE INTERNAL SECURITY FIELD. DIPLOMATIC
SOURCES ADD THAT A POSSIBLE VISIT BY BENIN PRESIDENT
KEREKOU WAS ALSO DISCUSSED. BENIN CIVIL SERVICE
AND LABOR MINISTER BIAOU VISITED LIBYA IN MID-APRIL.

3. BULGARIA. ANDREI LUKANOV, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, VISITED LIBYA JUNE 4-7. DURING

HIS STAY, LUKANOV MET WITH LIBYAN NUMBER TWO JALUD, TRADE SECRETARY SHARIF AND OTHER OFFICIALS. PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE, THE TWO SIDES SIGNED THE MINUTES TO AN AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION IN AGRICULTURE, OIL, AND TRADE (TRIPOLI 0812).

4. MALAYSIA. HOUSING SECRETARY MUHAMMAD AL-MANQUSH RETURNED TO TRIPOLI JUNE 9 FOLLOWING A VISIT TO MALAYSIA TO ATTEND THE FIRST SESSION OF THE JOINT MALAYSIAN-LIBYAN ARAB MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE. DURING THIS VISIT, A PROTOCOL WAS SIGNED WHICH STIPULATES THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A LIBYAN CULTURAL CENTER AND A JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY OFFICE IN KUALA LUMPUR. LIBYA WILL ALSO GRANT 12 UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS TO MALAYSIANS, WHILE MALAYSIA WILL GIVE LIBYAN STUDENTS 5 SCHOLARSHIPS FOR TECHNICAL STUDIES. AGREEMENT ALSO PROVIDES FOR CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGES AS WELL AS THE PROMOTION OF TRADE AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION.

5. POLAND. MRS. MARIA MILCZAREK, POLISH MINISTER OF LOCAL ECONOMY AND PRESERVATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT VISITED LIBYA JUNE 1-7 DURING WHICH TIME SHE SIGNED AN IMPORTANT PROTOCOL CALLING FOR A COMMON WORKING PROGRAM IN THE SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL FIELDS (TRIPOLI 0795).

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6. PLO/PFLP-GC/PDFLP. SEVERAL IMPORTANT LEADERS OF VARIOUS PALESTINIAN ORGANIZATIONS ARRIVED IN TRIPOLI DURING THE WEEK, SOME FOR CONSULTATIONS AND OTHERS TO ATTEND THE CELEBRATIONS JUNE 11 OF THE AMERICAN EVACUATION OF WHEELUS AIR BASE. AMONG THOSE REPORTED BY THE MEDIA AS ARRIVING WERE AHMAD JIBRIL OF THE PFLP-GC ON JUNE 5, NAYIF HAWATMAH OF THE PDFLP JUNE 10, AND YASIR ARAFAT AND ABU IYAD OF THE PLO ON JUNE 9 AND 10.

7. SOMALIA. MR. ABDULKADER AL-HAJI, A MEMBER OF THE SOMALI MILITARY COUNCIL, VISITED TRIPOLI JUNE 1-6 CARRYING A PERSONAL LETTER FOR QADHAFI FROM SOMALI PRESIDENT BARRE. QADHAFI'S ABSENCE IN ALGERIA PREVENTED ABDULKADER FROM MEETING WITH THE LIBYAN LEADER, ALTHOUGH HE DID HOLD DISCUSSIONS WITH ABD AL-SALAM JALUD ON THE SITUATION IN THE OGADEN. FURTHER DETAILS ARE NOT KNOWN AT PRESENT.

8. SRI LANKA. SRI LANKA FOREIGN MINISTER ABDULKADER HAMEED VISITED LIBYA JUNE 5-9, LARGELY TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITIES OF OBTAINING LIBYAN AID AND/OR INVESTMENT IN SRI LANKA AND TO DISCUSS A POSSIBLE MANPOWER AGREEMENT

(TRIPOLI 0821).

9. UNITED KINGDOM. CONSERVATIVE SHADOW FOREIGN SECRETARY JOHN DAVIS ARRIVED IN TRIPOLI JUNE 9 ON A SHORT ORIENTATION VISIT DURING WHICH HE MET WITH FOREIGN SECRETARY TURAYKI AND OTHER OFFICIALS.

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10. WESTERN SAHARA. KEY POLISARIO LEADER MUHAMMAD AL-AMIN WILD AHMAD ARRIVED IN TRIPOLI JUNE 10 TO ATTEND "AMERICAN EVACUATION DAY" CELEBRATIONS. HE LAST VISITED TRIPOLI MAY 5 AND HAD LATER MET AGAIN WITH QADHAFI IN ALGIERS MAY 31.

11. YUGOSLAVIA. BRANISLAV IKONIC, VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE YUGOSLAV FEDERAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, ARRIVED IN TRIPOLI JUNE 5. FURTHER DETAILS ON THIS VISIT HAVE NOT AS YET BEEN REPORTED BY THE LOCAL MEDIA.

II. DEPARTURES --

12. TUNISIA. MAJOR AL-KHUWALAYDI AL-HUMAYDI -- WHO ACCOMPANIED QADHAFI TO ALGIERS -- VISITED TUNIS JUNE 6-8

BEFORE RETURNING TO TRIPOLI. DURING HIS VISIT, HUMAYDI
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MET WITH BOURGUIBA AND NOUIRA AND, ACCORDING TO LOCAL
MEDIA, DISCUSSED QADHAFI'S JUNE 3 PROPOSAL FOR AN
ALGERIA-LIBYA-TUNISIAN UNION.

13. GUINEA/CONGO/ANGOLA/MADAGASCAR. INFORMATION SECRETARY
MUHAMMAD AL-ZUWAYY LEFT LIBYA JUNE 1 FOR VISITS TO
LEFTIST AFRICAN COUNTRIES. PURPOSE OF THE VISIT WAS
TO RALLY SUPPORT FOR QADHAFI'S CALL TO "PROGRESSIVE"
REGIMES TO BLOCK THE PLANS FOR A FRANCO-AFRICAN INTER-
VENTION FORCE.

14. UPPER VOLTA/NIGER. FOREIGN SECRETARY TURAYKI VISITED
OUAGADOUGOU AND NIAMEY IN EARLY JUNE RETURNING TO TRIPOLI
JUNE 7. WHILE IN UPPER VOLTA, TURAYKI MET WITH PRESIDENT
LAMIZANA. DISCUSSIONS FOCUSED ON THE RECENT FRANCO-AFRICAN
SUMMIT IN PARIS AND QADHAFI'S OBJECTIONS TO PLANS TO
FORM AN INTERVENTION FORCE. TURAYKI'S VISIT TO NIAMEY
WAS OBSTENSIBLY TO HEAD THE LIBYAN DELEGATION TO THE
PERMANENT COMMITTEE FOR AFRO-ARAB COOPERATION, BUT THE
LOCAL MEDIA AND DIPLOMATIC SOURCES IN TRIPOLI SUGGEST
THAT REAL REASONS FOR VISIT WERE TO SOLICIT PRESIDENT
KOUNTCHE'S SUPPORT FOR LIBYAN POSITIONS ON AFRICAN
AFFAIRS GENERALLY AND ON THE RESUMPTION OF THE CHAD
RECONCILIATION TALKS. TURAYKI ALSO MET WITH MAURITANIAN
FOREIGN MINISTER HAMDY OULD MOUKNASS TO DISCUSS BILATERAL
MATTERS AND THE WESTERN SAHARA.

15. INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION. LABOR AND CIVIL
SERVICE SECRETARY MUHAMMAD TAHIR MAHJUB DEPARTED LIBYA
JUNE 4 TO ATTEND THE 64TH SESSION OF THE ILO WHICH
OPENED JUNE 7. LOCAL MEDIA REPORT THAT MAHJUB MET WITH
THE JORDANIAN LABOR MINISTER DURING HIS GENEVA VISIT.

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16. WEST GERMANY. AHMAD SHAHATI, HEAD OF THE FOREIGN
LIAISON BUREAU, WENT TO BREMEN FROM BRUSSELS TO ATTEND
THE CONFERENCE ON THE SCOPE FOR SOCIALIST TRANSFORMATION
IN THE MEDITERRANEAN. HE RETURNED TO LIBYA JUNE 10.
CONFERENCE WAS PARTIALLY SUBSIDIZED BY LIBYA.

III. NEW ORGANIZATIONS --

17. A POLISH-LIBYAN FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION WAS ESTABLISHED

MAY 31.

IV. CONFERENCES --

18. THE ARAB FOOD INDUSTRIES' WORKERS' AND EMPLOYEES' UNION HELD ITS FOURTH CONFERENCE IN TRIPOLI JUNE 4-7. THE LIBYAN GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE GENERAL UNION OF WORKERS' ASSOCIATIONS, MR. AL-FAYTURI AL-DALI, WAS ELECTED GENERAL SECRETARY UNTIL THE NEXT GENERAL CONFERENCE, AND THE ORGANIZATION VOTED TO TRANSFER THE UNION'S HEADQUARTERS FROM CAIRO TO TRIPOLI.

19. WHAT THE PRESS CALLED AN EXTRAORDINARY CONFERENCE OF ARAB TRANSPORT WORKERS OPENED IN TRIPOLI JUNE 9. MUHAMMAD SHAHATI 'URABI -- THE HEAD OF THE BENGHAZI BRANCH OF THE LIBYAN TRANSPORT UNION WAS ELECTED AS CHAIRMAN OF THE CONFERENCE. THE KEYNOTE SPEAKER WAS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GENERAL PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE (PRIME MINISTER) ABD AL-ATI AL-UBAYDI. BOTH OF THESE CONFERENCES ARE EXAMPLES OF THE CONTINUING LIBYAN EFFORT TO GAIN CONTROL OF PART OF THE ARAB LABOR MOVEMENT IN AN ATTEMPT TO USE IT TO FURTHER UNDERMINE PRESIDENT SADAT'S STANDING IN EGYPT AND IN THE MIDDLE EAST GENERALLY. CARLE

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